

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WQ WORKSHOP – The First 25 Years

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February 3, 2015  
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# Presentation Outline

- Origin and Background
- Format
- Goals
- First Workshop
- Results
- Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Acknowledgments

# Workshop Origin

- To help meet the Coordinated Monitoring Program goals of the 1988 Idaho Antidegradation Agreement
- Established under Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus
- IDEQ given lead agency status for the “Coordinated Monitoring Program” portion of the Agreement

# Goals of Antidegradation Agreement

## Coordinated Monitoring Program

- Share and disseminate the results of water quality monitoring
- Assist with the standardization of monitoring methods
- Help reduce perceived duplication of monitoring efforts

# Goals of Antidegradation Agreement

## Coordinated Monitoring Program (Cont.)

- Share and disseminate the results of water quality monitoring
  - We saw the annual Workshop as a means to accomplish this goal
- Assist with the standardization of monitoring methods
  - IDEQ developed a set of monitoring protocols to accomplish this goal – results reported at Workshop

# Goals of Antidegradation Agreement

## Coordinated Monitoring Program (Cont.)

- Help reduce perceived duplication of monitoring efforts
  - We saw the annual Workshop as a means to accomplish this goal

# Workshop Origin

- Coordinated Nonpoint Source Water Quality Monitoring Program for Idaho – January 1990
  - Nonpoint Source Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee
    - Chaired by IDEQ (Clark)

# Workshop Origin

- Planning meeting held while a group of us were at an EPA sponsored “Symposium on Water Quality Assessment,” in Fort Collins, CO, October 17, 1989
  - Steve Bauer (IDEQ)
  - Tim Burton (USFS/IDEQ)
  - Bill Clark (IDEQ)
  - Don Martin (USEPA)
  - Pete Stender (USFS)



# Workshop Origin

- Returned to Idaho from meeting
- IDEQ began to organize the Workshop
- NPS Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator – Bill Clark
- Establishment of Workshop Steering Committee, 1990
  - Meetings to plan first Workshop

# Workshop Origin

- Original Steering Committee Membership
  - State of Idaho
    - Environmental Quality – Bill Clark (Tim Burton)
    - Fish and Game – John Heimer, later replaced by Scott Grunder
  - Federal
    - Environmental Protection Agency – Don Martin IOO
    - Forest Service – Tim Burton; Ann Puffer R-1; Mike Collette, R-4
    - Bureau of Land Management –Karl Gebhardt
    - Agricultural Research Service - Karl Gebhardt

# Workshop Origin

- Additional Steering Committee Membership
  - State of Idaho
    - Agriculture
    - Boise State University, Biology Department
    - Lands
  - Federal
    - NRCS
    - US Geological Survey
  - Other
    - Boise River Tours
    - Idaho Power Company
    - The College of Idaho, Natural History Museum

# Workshop Format

- Held in winter to avoid major field season conflicts
- 3 day format (2 half days) to allow for travel and to maximize networking opportunities
- Keynote speakers (current hot topics)
- Oral Presentations
- Poster Presentations
- Commercial Exhibits
- Occasional use of mini-workshops, panels, work groups, demonstrations, and concurrent training sessions

# Workshop Goals

- To provide a forum for the dissemination of water quality monitoring methods and results
- Subtitle: “Closing the Feedback Loop”
  - BMPs could be changed to meet WQ standards and criteria
- Available to anyone interested
- Inexpensive (free to \$5)

# Workshop Goals (Cont.)

- Extra Values
  - “Force” us to look at our results/data
  - Networking
  - “Piggybacking” of other meetings, etc.
  - Used as annual training by some entities

# Workshop Chairs

- Bill Clark and Tim Burton co-chair, 1991
- Bill Clark, later on through 2003
- Don Zaroban assumed Workshop Chair for the 2004 Workshop and continues in that position

# First Workshop

- “First Annual Nonpoint Source Water Quality Monitoring Results Workshop,” January 15-17, 1991
- Boise Interagency Fire Center
- 130+ participants
- 32 Oral presentations
- 5 Poster presentations
- Need to find a larger facility, hence the move to BSU



# Workshop Results

- Annual Workshop since 1991
- 25<sup>th</sup> Year (2015)
- Longest running Workshop of its kind in the Nation
- The only such Workshop in the PNW (EPA Region 10)

# Workshop Results

- Keynote Speakers/Topics/Themes
  - Coast to coast: Seattle to Atlanta
  - National Experts in Environmental Fields
    - NPS BMPs and Monitoring
    - Nonpoint Source Water Quality Issues
    - Stream Temperature
    - Biomonitoring and Aquatic Biointegrity
    - Watersheds
    - PacFish

# Workshop Results (Cont.)

- Keynote Speakers/Topics/Themes
  - Stream Water Quality Prediction
  - Watershed Restoration
  - Urban Water Use
  - Data Issues
  - Antidegradation Review
  - Riparian Management
  - Fire and Erosion
  - Lake Water Quality

# Workshop Results (Cont.)

- Keynote Speakers/Topics/Themes
  - TMDLs
  - Trace Element Monitoring
  - Project Aurora
  - Water Quality Legal Aspects
  - Emerging Contaminants/Pharmaceuticals
  - Climate Change
  - Ground Water-Surface Water Issues
  - Forest Roads and Water Quality
  - Workshop Review

# Workshop Results (Cont.)

- Presentations (Oral and Poster)
  - Nearly 1,000 presentations have been made
  - Average of ~ 40 per year
  - Hundreds of presenters
  - My best guess at total attendance is ~ 4,000
  - Covered most Water Quality related topics
  - Most are archived on the IDEQ Web Page:  
<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/site-search.aspx?search=Water+Quality+Workshop>

# Conclusions

- Workshop met Antidegradation Goals
  - We feel that the goals were met for the intent of the Antidegradation Agreement
  - We feel that we exceeded those expectations
- Workshop has grown
  - Addresses current water quality issues in Idaho and the PNW

# Recommendations

- Continue the Workshop as long as it is relevant
- Keep affordable (no charge)
- Change as needed to keep up with current issues and technologies
- Please complete the **Workshop Evaluation**, as these guide future Workshop direction

# Acknowledgments

- **Steering Committee Members**

- Gary Bahr-IDA
- Phil Bandy-IDEQ
- Greg Bevenger-USFS
- Bryce Bohn-USFS
- Tim Burton-USFS
- Bill Clark-IDEQ/IPC/Cofl
- Mike Collette-USFS
- Mary Donato-USGS
- Karl Gebhardt-BLM/ARS
- Bill Goodman-USFS
- Cyndi Grafe-IDEQ
- Scott Grunder-IDF&G
- Val Hancock-NRCS
- Mark Hardy-USGS
- John Heimer-IDFG & Boise River Tours
- Rick Hopson-USFS
- Peter Koetsier-BSU



# Acknowledgments (Cont.)

- **Steering Committee Members**

- Walton Low-USGS
- Dorene MacCoy-USGS
- Terry Maret-USGS
- Don Martin-USEPA
- Chris Mebane-USGS
- Sharon Murray-USGS
- Ralph Myers-IPC
- Scott Nichols-IDL
- Deb Parlman-USGS
- Dave Pisarski-IDEQ
- Walt Poole-IDFG
- Ann Puffer-USFS
- Bruce Sims-USFS
- William Stewart-USEPA
- Eric Wilson-IDL
- Paul Woods-USGS
- Don Zaroban-IDEQ

# Acknowledgments (Cont.)

- IDEQ
  - Barry Burnell
  - Michael McIntyre
  - Michael Spomer
  - Lori Garza
  - Amanda Bartlett
  - Philip Ferguson
  - Brenda Valverde\*
  - Linda Smith\*
- John Heimer
- Ervin Cowley
- USEPA

# Acknowledgments (Cont.)

- **Sponsors Over The Years**
  - BioMark
  - Boise State University
  - Cascade Outfitters
  - CH2M Hill, Inc.
  - EcoAnalysts, Inc.\*
  - Electronic Data Solutions, Inc.\*
  - Environmental Science & Public Policy Research Institute
  - Hach Environmental
  - Hach Hydrdomet
  - HDR, Inc.
  - Hydrolab

# Acknowledgments (Cont.)

- **Sponsors Over The Years**
  - Idaho Power Company
  - Idaho Water Engineering
  - Integrated Watershed Solutions, Inc.
  - Intermountain Environmental, Inc.
  - Lower Boise Watershed Council
  - NW Environmental Training Center
  - OTT Hydromet
  - Peak Science Communications
  - Smith-Root, Inc.
  - TerraGraphics
  - Watershed Professionals Network
  - Whitney Equipment Co., Inc.

# Acknowledgments (Cont.)

- **Agency Sponsors**

- Boise State University – Biology Department
- Idaho Department of Agriculture
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- Idaho Power Company
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Geological Survey

Thanks for your participation  
and support over the years

Questions?

Comments?